

Making a House a Home



For water-loving Suzanne and Graeme, it wasn't just a dream retirement house that prompted their most recent house purchase, but the possibility of a swimming pool. Having moved from her beloved lakeside home, building her very own pool was the exact motivation Suzanne needed to warm to the prospect of moving.

With an old knee injury that now threatened Suzanne's passion for skiing, swimming had become a vital part of her exercise routine and key to staying on the slopes. However, a series of illnesses following trips to public pools had raised health and safety issues for her. A pool of their own would allow her to swim every day in a clean, relaxing and sanitary environment and thus became the number one priority when house hunting.

Having found a new home with space for an indoor pool with direct access from the house, the couple set about finding a reputable company that could manage the entire project from start to finish, beginning with initial planning permission.

PLANNING AND DESIGN

Having been let down by several local companies who didn't respond to their enquiries, Suzanne and Graeme found Origin who immediately set up a meeting to discuss requirements before visiting the house to confirm what would be feasible before the couple put in their offer.

"It was essential for us to know that it would be possible to build a pool in the space before we made an offer as this was our main draw to the house. Origin managed the whole planning process and secured initial planning permission, allowing us to move ahead. They were very familiar with the planning process and managed the whole project, taking much of our stress away."

"We were keen to start building the pool extension as soon as we bought the house and Origin managed the project very smoothly. They were very adaptable and performed above expectations, advising on space economising solutions and helping to install the changing room, shower, toilet and sink, in addition to the pool. They were also happy to work alongside other suppliers and oversaw the installation of wall mirrors that we brought in from an external company. We found the Origin employees to be the kind of workmen who we would have wanted to employ directly: high quality, reliable, personable and knowledgeable.

"I didn't fall in love with the house straight away but the pool really clinched it. Watching how the pool fit in made me see the house in a whole new light. We are particularly impressed with how well the structure blends in with the original house – no one can believe it's a new extension!"

A COSY EVENING HIDEAWAY

For Suzanne and Graeme, the pool is an area of relaxation for all aspects of life, becoming a cosy hideaway for any time of day. During the construction of the pool, Origin were also enlisted to build an office filing room and a wine room as part of the pool house structure, fulfilling Graeme's love of wine, as well as Suzanne's passion for swimming.

"As well as swimming every day, we often go to the pool for a glass of wine in the evening. The room is always warm and the skylights Origin installed make it beautiful and relaxing at night."

GETTING THE WHOLE FAMILY ACTIVE

Suzanne had hoped that access to a pool of her own and the chance to swim daily would help with her long-term knee injury and this has certainly proved the case.

"I'm able to roll straight out of bed and into the pool so I find myself swimming every day. The frequent, low-impact exercise has really helped with my knee, allowing me to continue skiing.

"The pool has also proved great for entertaining. My friends come around frequently and it's been great to be able to swim and exercise together whilst

catching up. Over the school holidays and on weekends, our grandchildren love coming to swim. One day during half term we had 10 adults and 10 children in the room, most of whom were in the pool. It has really become the social hub of the home and keeps the whole family active! We would recommend Origin to anyone thinking of building a pool."



For more information on this project:

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